

ANNUAL REPORT
ON
THE HEALTH
OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF WALMER,
FOR THE YEAR
1914,

BY
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DEAL.

T. F. PAIN AND SONS, PRINTERS, DEAL AND SANDWICH.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WALMER.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1914.

TO THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WALMER.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Urban District of Walmer, during the twelve months ended December 31st, 1914.

Physical Features.

The District is divided into Upper and Lower Walmer. Upper Walmer, as its name implies, stands on higher ground, varying from 25 to 100 feet above the mean sea-level ; while Lower Walmer, which is nearer the sea, is on fairly level ground, varying generally from 20 to 25 feet above ordnance datum, but has one or two small areas at about 10 feet above ordnance datum. The sub-soil in Upper Walmer is chalk, but a bed of brick earth, or clay, and flints, overlies the chalk in many places, often to a depth of several feet.

In Lower Walmer the soil is principally brick earth, overlying the chalk to a depth of about 18 feet. There is some dry sand, with pebbles, near the sea-front, and this is separated from the chalk by a layer of four or five feet of brick earth. This brick earth, although somewhat dense, is fairly porous, and rapidly dries up, even after a prolonged rainfall. Chalk is found at a depth of about 20 feet, or at ordnance datum.

Population.

Area in Acres.	Estimated Population, 1911.	Population to mid 1914.
1019	5,347	5,818

The total population of the District, estimated to the middle of the year, including 1452 persons, the total number of all ranks, and women and children residing in the Royal Marine Barracks on the 27th June, 1914, was

5818 as against
5688 in 1913, and
5347 in the 1911 Census.

The number in Barracks at the end of the year was far in

excess of this figure, and probably amounted to 3600. In addition, nearly 800 Naval Divisional Engineers were billeted in the District.

Inhabited Houses.

The number of Dwelling-Houses in the District at the end of the year was 1086, of which 15 were temporarily occupied by Naval Divisional Engineers, and 30 unoccupied.

Births.

The number of Births registered during the year was 83. There was no Inward and no Outward Transferable Births.

83	giving a rate of 14.2 per 1000 as compared with
88	„ „ 15.2 „ in 1913, and
95	„ „ 16.6 „ in 1912.

The average Birth Rate for the past 5 years is 16.5 per 1000.

Deaths.

The number of Deaths registered in the District was 48. There were 12 Inward Transferable Deaths and 1 Outward, making a net total of 59.

59	giving a rate of 10.41 per 1000 as compared with
57	„ „ 10.02 „ in 1913, and
45	„ „ 7.90 „ in 1912.

The average Death Rate for the past 5 years is 8.72. The number of Deaths under 1 year were 5.

5	giving a rate of 60.24 per 1000 Births registered, as compared with
3	„ „ 34.09 „ „ in 1913, and
4	„ „ 42.10 „ „ in 1912.

Infectious Disease.

There were 22 cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.—15 cases of Scarlet Fever throughout the year. The type of this disease has again been of a very mild nature—in fact, so mild that the disease has in several cases been overlooked until the peeling of the patient has revealed its nature. I suspect some cases were not seen by a medical attendant, and therefore missed altogether, which will possibly explain why cases have been cropping up ever since February, without definite source.

DIPHTHERIA.—No cases.

SMALL-POX.—No cases.

ENTERIC.—One case. No definite source was obtainable.

ERYSIPELAS.—One case.

TUBERCULOSIS.—In accordance with the Tuberculosis Regulations, 19th Dec., 1912, there have been 4 notifications of this disease, all of which were of a Pulmonary character. One of these cases, a boy of 15, was a Belgian refugee; another a visitor from Acton. Investigations were made and disinfection carried out, and general instructions given as to hygiene, ventilation, etc., and in 2 cases Sanatorium treatment was provided.

Infectious Disease.

As soon as a case of Infectious Disease is notified, the premises are visited, and the case investigated. Where satisfactory means of isolation are not available at the patient's residence, the case is moved to the Isolation Hospital. The house is then fumigated with formaldehyde or sulphur dioxide, after which the infected bedding, wearing apparel, etc., are removed to the Steam Disinfector for treatment. In cases of Scarlet Fever, the owner or occupier is required to strip papered walls, and wash down distempered and papered surfaces.

Isolation Hospital.

The Hospital is situated on high chalk ground in Deal, near the south boundary of their area, and while well away from the built-up portion of the District, is conveniently accessible. The buildings are of corrugated iron, match-boarded inside, with felt packing between the iron and match-boarding. The main building has two wards, between which are the kitchen and nurse's quarters. Both wards are heated by central stoves and have separate sanitary accommodation, disinfecting pans, etc. In 1911 a small detached building was provided for dealing with a second disease, and in 1912 an additional building, having brick walls, was erected on the site, to accommodate a caretaker and his wife. The buildings are drained into the Deal drainage system, and a constant supply of water is laid on from the Deal water mains.

County Bacteriological Laboratory.

The County Laboratory is being used by the local medical profession, who find it a great acquisition. The bacteriologist's reports have been this year forwarded direct to the practitioner submitting the specimens, a duplicate also being sent to me.

Small-Pox.

Report on the adaptability of buildings at Hammill, with a view to their being used for isolation of cases of this disease occurring in Deal, Walmer, Sandwich, the Eastry Rural District, and Bridge.

These two buildings are of equal size, and are constructed of corrugated iron sheeting, tightly match-boarded inside, a wool packing between wood and iron. They are very well made. Each building contains 11 cubicles for accommodation of 11 adult patients; these cubicles are of good dimensions, and it would be possible to accommodate two children in each. There is also a room in each building which would accommodate four patients (adult). The offices for nurse, caretaker, etc., are efficient. The water supply was previously from the colliery well; this is not considered advisable, and, therefore, a scheme is in project, which I think will prove satisfactory. The drainage is by cesspool. The lighting will be by means of oil lamps.

Drainage.

The whole of the streets of the district are sewered with stoneware pipe sewers, jointed with cement. The sewers are laid to even gradients, work well, and are quite free from deposit.

The scheme for improving the sewerage of the District, which was referred to in my Reports for 1911, 1912 and 1913, is now in course of construction, and with the exception of the outfall pipes into the sea, is complete; this portion of the work has been delayed owing to unforeseen circumstances. At present the sewerage of the district flows continuously out of three outfalls at different points along the sea-front, but when the scheme in progress is finished, the whole of the sewerage will be collected by a new main sewer, and discharged by gravitation into a large storage tank, to be constructed under the beachy land near the sea-shore.

The contents of the storage tank will be stored during

the daytime, and discharged at a suitable state of the south-flowing tide during the night, through a new outfall, 900ft. long, measured from low water mark.

This scheme provides an outlet for the sewage, independently of the state of the tide, so that when a heavy downfall of rain coincides with a high tide, the storage tank and the new sewers will provide storage for nearly half a million gallons of water before the sewers become gorged. This, it is hoped, will prevent the flooding of the lower basements in the Barracks, which occasionally happens with the present system. It will do away with the nuisance complained of by bathers, as the tide will have carried the sewage clean away before bathers are about. The sewage will never be discharged—indeed, I am informed it cannot be discharged—on the north flowing tide, so all cause of complaint from our neighbours at Deal should be removed. The scheme for draining the portion of the district south of Walmer Castle has been considered by the Local Government Board, who, after holding a Public Inquiry, have given their sanction to the borrowing of the money necessary to the carrying out of the work.

This work will be put in hand as soon as the storage tank and outfall are ready to receive and discharge sewerage. The houses in this area are at present drained into cesspools, and it will be a distinct improvement to substitute water-carriage disposal.

When all the afore-mentioned works are carried out, proper drainage facilities will have been afforded for practically every house in the district, and only five will be left, which cannot readily be drained into a public sewer.

Water Supply.

The Urban District Council owns the water mains within the district, manages the distribution, and maintains a constant and plentiful supply. The water is pumped from deep wells in the chalk at the Deal and Walmer Waterworks, which are situated in the district of Deal.

The Pumping Station is under control of a Joint Water Board, which authority is composed of an equal number of members from the Deal and Walmer Councils respectively, acting under the Deal and Walmer Water Act, 1897. Every precaution has been taken by this Council to protect the water supply from pollution, and considerable sums of money have been spent in draining comparatively isolated blocks of

houses in the vicinity of the works, the drainage from which had previously discharged into cesspools.

The latest analytical and bacteriological report from the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine is as follows :

November 2nd, 1914.

Report on Examination of Water Received from Walmer Urban District Council, on 15th Oct., 1914.

Description of Sample. The sample was marked "Tap, Council Offices, Walmer. Collected 10 a.m., 14/10/14."

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS.—The sample was clear and free from smell.

ANALYTICAL DATA.—

Chemical.	Parts per 100,000.
Suspended Matter	
Dissolved Solids	35.0
Chlorine	2.95
Alkalinity	21.5
Permanent Hardness	7.7
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0005
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0055
Nitrogen as Nitrites	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates.....	0.824
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate at 80°F.	
(a) 15 minutes	
(b) 4 hours	None
Lead	None
Total Hardness	20.4

BACTERIOLOGICAL:

Number of bacteria in 1c.c. capable of growth at 22c=4.
37c=3.

B. coli was found to be "present in" 250 c.c.'s of the sample, but not in the smaller quantities examined.

These results, both chemical and bacteriological, are satisfactory.

ROBERT ROBINSON,
S. F. PETRE.

The streams supplying the Water Works flow from south-west to north-east—that is, towards the sea from Mongeham and Northbourne. The wells from which the water is pumped average 115 feet in depth.

PUMPS.

1st set, worked by compound beam engines, capable of raising 550 gallons per minute.

2nd set, similar to the previous.

3rd set, worked by compound horizontal engines, which have recently been added, and can raise 1,100 gallons a minute.

There are two Service Reservoirs serving the district.

I. Low Level Capacity ... 750,000 gallons.

II. High Level Capacity ... 100,000 „

WELLS.

The average daily quantity supplied to this Council by the Joint Board is 170,000 gallons. The water consumption during the past six months has, however, been very largely increased by the troops billeted in the district.

House-to-House Inspection.

The systematic examination of Dwelling-Houses is being continued, and Records kept, as required by the Local Government Board's regulations. This examination was commenced at the end of 1908, and the records of the inspections, and the sanitary improvements carried out in consequence, are entered on separate sheets, and also in a "Register of Inspections of District" in a form suggested by the Local Government Board under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909. Mr. H. W. Barker, the Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances, is the official appointed to make the actual inspections, and to keep the necessary records.

Houses inspected—1910	91
1911	197
1912	164
1913	154
1914	306

There is not, in this district, any dwelling-house in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation ; therefore, no steps with a view to closing orders were taken or necessary ; but sanitary defects were remedied at 57 houses, without the making of closing orders.

Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

Number of Dwelling Houses inspected under and for the purposes of the Section	306
Number of such Dwelling Houses which were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation...	None

Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which representations were made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders	None
Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	None
Number of Dwelling Houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders	57
Number of Dwelling Houses which, after the making of Closing Orders, were made fit for human habitation	None
General character of the Defects found to exist in the Dwelling Houses inspected	Defective drains Dirty water closets Unpaved yards

During the last twelve months ended 31st December last, 617 inspections were made. This figure includes the inspection of

306 Dwelling Houses, under Section 17 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909, during which sanitary defects were found at 57 of them.

7 Statutory Notices dealing with sanitary defects at 8 houses were served, and

36 Informal Notices dealing with sanitary defects at 47 houses.

1 Statutory Notice dealing with one house, and

1 Informal Notice dealing with two houses,

were outstanding at the end of the year.

In many cases the Inspector saw the respective owners, and persuaded them to put the necessary work in hand, so, that in such cases, notices were unnecessary.

As a result of the above inspections, notices and interviews,

12 Drains serving 18 houses were taken up and re-laid and ventilated.

6 Drains serving 6 houses were repaired.

5 Drains serving 12 houses were unblocked.

2 Slop-drains and sinks were provided.

6 Sink waste-pipes trapped.

16 New pans and traps fixed in existing water-closets.

34 Flushing cisterns fixed.

4 Flushing cisterns repaired.

6 Eaves-spouts and down-pipes repaired.

- 10 Water services laid into 10 houses which were previously served by outside standpipes, each serving several houses.
- 2 Water storage tanks removed.
- 2 Leaky gas services replaced by new ones, and
- 22 Back-yards paved with concrete.

House Refuse.

The refuse is moved from every house in the District twice in each week throughout the whole year. There have been no complaints.

The refuse is removed by a Contractor, acting under the supervision and direction of the Surveyor. Properly constructed and covered sanitary carts, provided by the Council, are used for this work, and the collection each day is finished by mid-day.

The refuse is carted outside our District on to agricultural land in the occupation of the Contractor, who is a market gardener. Here, within an enclosure, bounded by small mesh wire frames, the material is sorted. The paper and similar rubbish is burned.

The General Health of the District.

The general health of the District throughout the year was good.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

ERNEST L. DAVEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

February 4th, 1915.

TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

Y <small>EAR</small> .	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- cor- rected No.	Net.		No.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			No.	Rate.					No.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	No.	Rate.
1909	5242	109	109	20.7	42	8.01			4	36.69	42	8.01
1910	5309	89	89	16.7	51	9.60			8	89.88	51	9.60
1911	5347	106	106	19.9	32	5.98			15	142	32	5.98
1912	5690	93	93	16.6	38	6.67		7	4	42.10	45	7.90
1913	5688	88	88	15.2	44	7.73	1	14	3	34.09	57	10.02
1914	5818	83	83	14.2	48	10.14	1	12	5	60.24	59	10.14

Area of District in acres
(land and inland
water) } 1,019

Total population at all ages, 5,347
Number of inhabited houses,
Average number of persons per house,

At
Census
1911

TABLE 2.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases Notified.								Total cases notified.	Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages – Years.								
		Under 1.	1 & under 5 years.	5 & under 15 years.	15 & under 25 years.	25 & under 45 years.	45 & under 65 years.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox										
Cholera										
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)										
Erysipelas							1		1	
Scarlet fever				11	4				15	12
Typhus fever										
Enteric fever					1				1	1
Relapsing fever...										
Continued fever										
Puerperal fever...										
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis										
Poliomyelitis										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					1	2	1		4	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis										
Totals				11	6	3	1		21	15

Isolation Hospital:

DEAL AND WALMER ISOLATION HOSPITAL, provided by arrangement by the Deal Town Council.

TABLE III.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WALMER.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NET DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.										Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1 Enteric Fever	
2 Small Pox	
3 Measles	
4 Scarlet Fever	
5 Whooping Cough	
6 Diphtheria and Croup	
7 Influenza	1	...	1	
8 Erysipelas	
9 Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	1	...	...	1	
10 Tuberculous Meningitis	1	...	...	...	...	1	
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1	
12 Cancer, malignant disease	1	2	4	7	
13 Rheumatic Fever	
14 Meningitis	
15 Organic Heart Disease	1	3	4	8	
16 Bronchitis	1	1	
17 Pneumonia (all forms)	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	4	
18 Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	
19 Diarrhoea and Enteritis	
20 Appendicitis and Typhlitis	
21 Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	1	
21a Alcoholism	
22 Nephritis & Bright's Disease	1	...	1	1	3	
23 Puerperal Fever	
24 Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	
25 Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	
26 Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	1	2	...	3	
27 Suicide	
28 Other Defined Diseases	2	...	...	...	...	2	5	17	26	
29 Diseases ill-defined or unknown	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Totals	5	...	...	1	2	7	15	29	59	

Sub-entries included { 14 Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ... 0

in above figures { 29 Poliomyelitis ... 0

TABLE 4.

Infant Mortality during the Year 1914.

Net Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks & under 3 months.	3 months & under 6 months.	6 months & under 9 months.	9 months & under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes } Certified — Uncertified —													
{ Small-pox													
{ Chicken-pox													
{ Measles													
{ Scarlet fever													
{ Whooping-cough													
{ Diphtheria and Croup.. .. .													
{ Erysipelas													
{ Tuberculous Meningitis													
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis													
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases.. .. .													
{ Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)													
{ Convulsions									1	1			2
{ Laryngitis													
{ Bronchitis													
{ Pneumonia (all forms).. .. .									1				1
{ Diarrhœa													
{ Enteritis													
{ Gastritis													
{ Syphilis													
{ Rickets													
{ Suffocation, overlying.. .. .													
{ Injury at birth													
{ Atelectasis													
{ Congenital Malformations													
{ Premature birth													
{ Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus					1					1			1
{ Other causes													1
					1				2	2			5

Net Births in the year : Legitimate, 82 ; Illegitimate, 1.

Net Deaths in the year : Legitimate infants, 4 ; Illegitimate infants, 1.

1.—INSPECTION OF FAOTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	6		
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	18		
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)			
Total	24	None.	None.

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness
Want of ventilation
Overcrowding
Want of drainage of floors
Other nuisances
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient
unsuitable or defective
not separate for sexes
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)
Other Offences
(Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)..
Total	None.	None.	None.	None.

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS—SECTION 107.							OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110.				
	Lists received from Employers.						Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.	Prosecutions.		Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made. (S. 110).	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110).
	Sending twice in the year.			Sending once in the year.				Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.						
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.										
		Con- trac- tors.	Work- men.		Con- trac- tors.	Work- men.									
Wearing Apparel—															
Making, &c.	2	...	69	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cleaning and Washing
Household Linen
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets...
Curtains & Furniture Hangings
Furniture and Upholstery
Electro-plate
File Making
Brass and Brass Articles
Fur Pulling
Cables and Chains
Anchors and Grapnels
Cart Gear
Locks, Latches and Keys
Umbrellas, &c.
Artificial Flowers...
Nets, other than Wire Nets
Tents
Sacks
Racquet and Tennis Balls
Paper, &c., Boxes, Paper Bags
Brush Making
Pea Picking
Feather Sorting
Carding, &c., of Buttons, &c.
Stuffed Toys
Basket Making
Chocolates and Sweetmeats
Cosaques, Christmas Crackers,
Christmas Stockings, &c.
Textile Weaving
Total	2	...	69	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.										5.—OTHER MATTERS.											
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.										Number.	Class.										Number.
Important classes of Workshops, such as Workshop Bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	Builders' Premises (when no power is used)									2	Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—										
	Laundry									1	Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)										—
	Dressmaking Rooms									2	Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901). Notified by H.M. Inspector										—
	Bakehouses									6	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector										—
	Milliners									1	Other										—
	Forge (Shoeing)									2	Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—										
	Mineral Water Works									1	Certificates granted during the year										—
	Total number of Workshops on Register									15	In use at the end of the year										None.



